

Earith Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held on Thursday 7th December 2017

Present – Councillors

Mr John Fulcher (Chairman)

Mr Jeff Nicholls

Mr Allan Till

Mr Terry Rogers

Miss Ann Brennan (Vice Chairman)

Mr Keith Hudson

Mr James Woolstenholmes

Mr Gavin Young

DC Mr Robin Carter, DC Mr Mike Francis, CC Mr Steve Criswell

Mandy Pink – Clerk

3 members of the public

Item 201 Apologies for absence – Mrs Julie Seamark, Mrs Marilyn Russell, Mr Alan Spackman**Open Meeting****Item 202 Open Forum** – A brief presentation was given by the applicant in support of planning application 17/02259/FUL agenda item 209

A village resident asked Councillor Criswell if there were any updates concerning traffic movements at Colne Fen. Permission for this site runs until Dec 2019.

Item 203 Ecops Report – The Clerk read a report from the Church Street Health Centre Practice Manager concerning criminal damage at the Earith branch surgery. The police report has been escalated due to ineffectual police action. Visual checks on the newly installed community defibrillator are being carried out as this is a vital piece of life saving equipment. Councillor Criswell also stated that police have visited the people that they believe to be responsible for this damage and they are monitoring this closely. There has also been an attempted theft from a van in Greenfields and a car accident at High Bridge.**Item 204 County Council and District Council Reports** – CC Mr Steve Criswell reported that work is now underway again on the cycleway and overnight closures will be in place between 12th and 23rd March when resurfacing work will be carried out on the Needingworth Road. Speed restrictions for entering Earith from Bluntisham have been included in the current LHI bid by Bluntisham and this is under consultation at present. A Newsletter from the County Council will provide more information about the planned road works. DC Mr Mike Francis and Mr Robin Carter both reported that the outline planning permission for 101 High Street, Earith will be included in the next District Council planning meeting. The Chairman reported that the Clerk had received a reply from Andy Cundy regarding the letter that the Parish Council submitted regarding this application. The District Council are waiting for various viability reports concerning this site. Housing needs will be assessed and the Valuations Office will also provide a viability report.**(Close open Meeting)****(Open closed section of Meeting)****Item 205 Code of Conduct – Dispensation received and decisions granted** – none received**Item 206 Councillors declaration of interest** – The Chairman drew the Councillors attention to the legal requirement that all interests should be declared following the Code of Conduct Localism Act 2011 c7.s27(3)(b). Councillor Nicholls declared an interest in agenda item 220.**Item 207 To sign minutes of Parish Council meeting held on** – 7th November 2017
Mr Keith Hudson proposed and Mr Terry Rogers seconded that the minutes should be signed.
Resolved - All in favour.**Item 208 Matters arising** – Councillor Brennan thanked Councillor Till for submitting the Aviva Community Fund application. Despite not receiving enough votes for full funding an amount of £300 will be provided from Aviva.**Item 209 Planning** – Application Reference 17/02259/FUL – Change of use from stable block to annex for holiday let and rental – Newfields, Earith Road, Colne
Mr James Woolstenholmes proposed and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that the application is accepted.
Resolved – All in favour
There will be no change to the original size and shape of the building and there is to be no private access provided for the development. The Annex should also be subject to the condition that it cannot be sold as an independent dwelling and must remain tied to the main house. No trees or hedges are to be removed.**Item 210 Chairman's Report** – The Chairman reported that the Community Defibrillator has now been installed and it is hoped that, despite the damage to the surgery, the defibrillator will be spared any vandalism as it is a vital piece of community equipment. The Parish Council will be installing a solar powered security

light to help with this issue. The invoice from the electrician has only just been received but as he is a one-man band it is hoped that the Council will consider paying this invoice now.

Miss Ann Brennan proposed and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that this cheque should be signed and the payment added to the list for December payments. Resolved – All in favour

The waste bin at the recreation field has been left un-emptied and kerbside waiting to be emptied as the payment for waste removal was made late and the service was temporarily suspended. The Chairman has asked the Clerk to set up a direct debit for any future payments as this is a vital service that the Council need to pay for. Online payments will be looked at in the New Year.

Item 211 Parish Council Representatives Report –

Road Safety and HCV – Mr Jeff Nicholls reported that Mrs Margaret Lumb had highlighted the LHI bid being made by Bluntisham and that she had supplied a plan showing the new proposed speeds. The Clerk had provided copies of this plan to the Councillors. There is to be a HCV meeting next week.

Recreation Field and Play Equipment –No report

Health and Safety – No report

Hanson update – No report

PC Cluster Meetings – No report

Saywell Charity – No report

Ouse Valley Way update – No report

ERICA Update – No report

Rights of Way – No report

Village Pond – Duck weed problems have been highlighted and will be an agenda item in January

Allotments –3 quarter plots currently vacant

Skeeles update – Miss Ann Brennan reported that there had been 9 applications for grant funding and 4 had been successful. A donation will also be made to the school.

Earith Town Estate – No report

Community Plan – No report

Village Car Parks – No report

Cambridgeshire Local Council Conference – Mr Jeff Nicholls reported that “ultra localism” was the highlight of the meeting with many services proposing to be passed down to the Parishes. It is also hoped that more parishes will make use of digital opportunities for communication and that more training can be provided for both Clerks and Councillors. The Cambridgeshire Local Council Development Plan was also unveiled at this conference. The Clerk has forwarded information about this to the Councillors.

Item 212 Trees and hedges to report for action to be taken and updates on visits already made –No visits have been made due to Councillor commitments.

Item 213 Drains, Roads and Pavements – including advisory notes re car parking – reports for action to be taken – No new reports

Item 214 Resident request for suggested 20mph speed limit request to be made by the Council to HCV companies – Following on from the request made last month during the open forum, the Council considered the request to write to local HCV companies asking them to honour a 20mph speed limit out of courtesy to the village such as that introduced by Mick George in Somersham. The Clerk is to liaise with Haddenham who have carried out a similar exercise and letters are to be sent from the Council.

Item 215 Community Plan Update – move to January agenda

Item 216 Local Highway Initiative Bid proposal to be discussed – The Clerk has now received costings and it was agreed that the estimated costings should be accepted as per the option highlighted during November's meeting.

Mr Jeff Nicolls proposed and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that Option 1 should be accepted
Resolved – All in favour

Item 217 Caretaker – Update – No report. The Clerk will supply a new table rota for the New Year.

Item 218 Resident's concerns regarding the Pond Area, problems with trees and fences to be discussed – Councillor Spackman has still not been able to view the Silver Birch tree, as he is waiting for the tree officer to contact him. He has, however, strimmed the feeding platform and tidied the area. The Council have obtained a like for like quotation for supplying a picket fence of £590 and it was decided that a donation of 50% of this cost will be provided for the home owner as they have contributed to the maintenance of the pond area. This will be a one-off payment and all further responsibility for the fence will rest with the homeowner. The fence does not belong to, and is not the liability of, the Council.

Item 219 St Ives Town Council Bus Services Proposal – St Ives Town Council have written to the Parish Council asking for support concerning bus services in and around St Ives. Councillor Brennan will attend a meeting, if she is available to do so, in the New Year.

Item 220 Royal British Legion Donation to consider – Mr Gavin Young proposed and Mr Terry Rogers seconded that a donation of £60.00 should be made as in previous years. Resolved – All in favour

Item 221 Positioning security lights around the village. Sites to be discussed – The Clerk and Councillor Nicholls carried out a village walkabout to determine sites for security lights. 12 lights have been purchased and it was decided that they should be positioned in the car park areas of the village in Hereward, Darford and Edwards Walk. Lights should also be installed in the shop passageway, School Road garage area, St Marys garage area and over the Defibrillator at the Doctors Surgery. Miss Ann Brennan will liaise with the Clerk regarding installations.

Item 222 Fire Protection Suggestions for the Village Hall – The Clerk has received suggestions for more signage at the Village Hall. A cost of £24.50 has been quoted
Mr Keith Hudson proposed and Mr Terry Rogers seconded that the Clerk should sort this out.
Resolved – All in favour

Item 223 Cultivate and Innovate Grant Bid – CCTV at the Village Hall and Recreation Field Play Area – The Clerk has received quotations for CCTV systems and would like to put a bid in for this. The deadline for bids is the 15th December.
Mr Terry Rogers proposed and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that the Clerk should submit a bid.
Resolved – All in favour

Item 224 Finance – a) Payments to sign off
b) Online Salary payments for December
c) Chairman to sign bank statement

Payee	Description		£	Chq	Powers
Mrs K M Pink	Clerks Wages 42 hrs. @ £16.001	672.04			LGHA1989,s.7
	Clerks Expenses	25.00			LGA 1963, s.5
	Back Dated Pay rise	13.82			LGHA1989,s.7
	Mobile Phone monthly rental not taxable	12.00			LGHA1989,s.7
	Total Less Tax		577.16	online	
Mrs C Shook	Caretaker hours 5.5 @ £8.873	48.80			LGA1972,s.133
xx	Booking Clerk 2.5hrs @ £8.873	22.18			LGHA 1989,s.7
	Back Dated Pay rise	1.21			LGHA 1989,s.7
	Total Less Tax		70.79	online	
Inland Revenue	PAYE November 2017		151.36	2965	LGA1972,s.112-119
Mr M S Pink	Parish Handyman – self-employed monthly contract		150.00	online	LGA1953,s.4
Mr R Hodge	Pond Maintenance		11.00	2966	PHA 1936, s.260
Earith Echo	Earith Echo Issue 45		220	2967	LGA 1972, s.133
EDC Poppy Appeal	Wreaths x 2		40.00	2968	LGA 1972, s.137
The Solar Centre	12 x Solar Security Lights		550.80	2969	Parish Councils Act 1957, s.3
Microsoft	Office 365 monthly cost		5.99	DD	LGHA 1972, s.266
CNG	Village Hall Gas monthly charge		47.23	DD	LGHA 1972, s.133
Axis	Village Hall Electricity		28.27	DD	LGHA1972,s.133
	Total Spend for November 2017		£1,852.60		

- Mr Terry Rogers proposed and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the payments should be signed off.
Resolved – All in favour
- Online salary payments for December –Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed and Mr Terry Rogers seconded that the payments should be made. Resolved – All in favour
- Chairman to sign the bank statement to confirm the online salary payments for November as above
Mr Keith Hudson proposed and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded. Resolved – All in favour

Item 225 Correspondence – All correspondence as per file

Item 226 Items for future meetings –Village Hall floor & chairs, WW1 commemoration, River Slip Ways, Radar speed feedback signs in January, Neighbourhood Plan, Data Protection, LPCAS subscription, Review of maintenance in the Village in January, London Plane Tree Quotations

Mrs Mandy Pink – Clerk 07717 207 533

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Meeting Dates

These minutes are unadopted

Parish Council Meeting – Thursday 4th January 2018

Parish Council Meeting – Thursday 1st February 2018

Parish Council Meeting – Thursday 1st March 2018

Parish Council Meeting – Thursday 5th April 2018

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Date of Notice – 16th December 2017